

Deer Creek Reservoir

Safe for Runoff

Wave 26 Apr 1984

The expected heavy runoff from snowmelt this spring poses no threat whatsoever to the long-term stability or the operation of Deer Creek Dam and Reservoir, Bureau of Reclamation officials in Provo said today.

"There has been general concern over the threat of flooding," Kirt Carpenter, Manager of Reclamation's Utah Projects Office, noted, "and that has led some persons to wonder what affect there might be on the facilities at Deer Creek. The answer is, none."

The dam and reservoir, located in Wasatch County about 16 miles northeast of Provo, was completed by Reclamation in 1941. It was

constructed in response to the drought of 1931-35 when water stored in Utah Lake fell from 850,000 to 20,000 acre-feet, more than 12 feet below compromise level. Provo and the other communities in Utah County, along with Salt Lake City, joined with irrigation interests to sponsor the project. It has provided municipal and industrial and irrigation water and recreation benefits ever since.

"The operation of Deer Creek is monitored 24 hours a day, and the facilities are regularly inspected," Carpenter said. "It has been consistently rated a safe dam. There are no known safety problems."

Deer Creek is designed to hold a maximum of 152,700 acre-feet of water. Its outlet works, which saw a power generating facility added in 1958, allows the operator to release up to 1,500 cubic feet of water per second from the reservoir. A maximum of 12,000 cubic feet per second can also be bypassed through the spillway.

It is when releases exceed 1,500 cubic feet per second that there is a risk of causing erosion and other flood-related damage below the reservoir. However, there may not be high potential for flooding on Provo River this year according to the most recent available data. Although runoff levels are higher due to the winter saturated ground, snowpack levels on those drainages which feed into Deer Creek are only slightly higher than average for this time of year and are among the lowest in Utah.

In addition, Hugh McKellar, Superintendent of the Provo River Water Users Association, which operates Deer Creek, indicates that capacity will be maintained in the reservoir in order to reduce peak flows to manageable levels in order to protect project facilities downstream. This will have the effect of minimizing potential flooding all along the river.

Sand Bags

Available

Heber City residents with legitimate concerns regarding flooding, may contact Tommy Lindsay at 654-3275 to check on the availability of sand bags for personal use.

s, impacted mining companies and landholders, and certain state and federal agencies. Questions center on provisions of the payment contract, water rights, safety of various dam sites, the need for additional electrical

power, and North State, Orem, Utah County. Wednesday, May 9, 1984, 7:30 p.m., Wasatch Middle School Auditorium, 175 East 800 South, Heber City, Wasatch County. Thursday, May 10, 1984, 7:30 p.m., Duchesne High School Auditorium, Duchesne, Duchesne

is to analyze work that has already been completed on the Bonneville Unit of the CUP and to re-examine uncompleted elements of the project."

Comments may be submitted in person or in writing at the public meetings, or written comments may be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources, 1636 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116. Public meetings will also be scheduled September 17-21 to solicit public review and comments on a draft report before the department submits a final report to the Governor. The public will be notified of times and locations of these later meetings.

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Heber City

Boosters to Hold Meeting

The Wasatch High School Boosters will hold their monthly meeting May 2, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wasatch High School.

All parents of up and coming Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors we need your support.

We can only help the students at Wasatch High if you become active and make this Boosters Club go. Come out and get acquainted and find out what the club is all about.

The new officers for 1984-85 will be announced.

We wish to express our appreciation to all the 1983-84 officers. They worked hard and did a super job.